

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NATO 04677 032049Z
ACTION EUR-12

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FM USMISSION NATO
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INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
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AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USDOCOCENT BRUNSSUM NLBT

UNCLAS NATO 04677

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MARR NATO
SUBJECT: NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL (NAC) DECISION ON
NETHERLANDS POLLUTION TAX: NAC MEETING 3 JUNE 77, ITEM
II: CLARIFICATION OF ARTICLES 10 OF THE AGREEMENT ON
THE STATUS OF FORCES (LONDON 1951) AND 8 OF THE
PROTOCOL ON THE STATUS OF HEADQUARTERS (PARIS 1952)

REFS: (A) USNATO 2687, 041641Z MAY 77; (B) STATE
125557, 312352Z MAY 77

1. THE COUNCIL DISCUSSED THE NETHERLANDS WATER
POLLUTION TAX (3 JUNE 77), SPECIFICALLY THE OPTION OF
WHETHER TO CONTINUE RESOLUTION OF TAX ISSUES IN THE
MILITARY BUDGET COMMITTEE (MBC), OR TO FORM AN OPEN-
ENDED WORKING GROUP OF INTERNATIONAL LAW EXPERTS
CHAIRLED BY THE NATO LEGAL ADVISOR.

2. THE SYG OPENED DISCUSSION FAVORING RETENTION IN
THE MBC. ON THE INITIAL GO-AROUND, DENMARK, FRANCE,
GREECE AND THE US FAVORED RETENTION IN MBC. NORWAY,
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NETHERLANDS, UK, AND BELGIUM FAVORED A WORKING GROUP
OF EXPERTS. FRANCE SUGGESTED A THIRD OPTION, I.E.,
AN AD HOC GROUP (TO PRECLUDE THE RISK INHERENT IN AN
OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP OF ONLY THOSE WITH SPECIAL
INTERESTS ATTENDING) WITH FULL PARTICIPATION OF ALL
COUNTRIES ANSWERABLE DIRECTLY TO THE COUNCIL.

3. THE FRENCH SUGGESTION OF A THIRD OPTION BECAME THE COUNCIL DECISION: TO SET UP AN AD HOC WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS IN INTERNATIONAL LAW WITH FULL PARTICIPATION OF ALL COUNTRIES REPORTING DIRECTLY TO THE COUNCIL.

4. THERE WAS NO DECISION AS TO WHEN FIRST SESSION WOULD BE CONVENED; WE WILL ADVISE WHEN KNOWN.
BENNETT

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